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United States Department of State

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Washington, D.C. 20520

PM
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May 14, 1992

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IS/FPC/CDR

File Date: 127/93

MEMORANDUM

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TO: EAP - Mr. Quinn

FROM: EAP/P - Emi Lynn Yamauchi *Wgof*

SUBJECT: Noon Press Briefing
Spokesman: Margaret Tutwiler

CHINA

A reporter asked, "There's a report that China has not gone ahead with a missile sale or missile technology transfer to Pakistan and Syria, in accordance with the promise made to the Secretary last November. Can you remark on that?" Tutwiler took the question (tasked to PM).

EAP/P:KRWalkin

MM 36

Question

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SOTI-S-Missile Sales FPC/CDR
Date: 12-7-93
File: 00015

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What is the Administration's view of Chinese missile and TS authority to nuclear proliferation policy and practice particularly S of the Middle East and South Asia.

Answer

- o We are pleased that China is participating in the President's Middle East arms control initiative as one of the five primary arms suppliers to the region. The Chinese have endorsed all of the key objectives of the initiative, such as efforts to freeze and ultimately eliminate surface-to-surface missiles and block the production of and acquisition of nuclear weapons-usable material, and have supported UNSC sanctions against Iraq.
- o The Chinese have confirmed in writing their intention to adhere to the MTCR Guidelines and parameters, and China recently acceded formally to the NPT.
- o China has announced publicly that it has not sold intermediate-range missiles to any country other than Saudi Arabia. To the best of my knowledge, apart from the Saudi Arabia sale, China has not transferred missiles covered by the MTCR to any country in the Middle East.
- o China has repeatedly stated that it has not supplied any missiles to Syria. We have seen press reports regarding sale of the M-9 to Syria but have no evidence that any transfer has taken place. We will continue to monitor the situation closely.
- o The Chinese last year stated that they had supplied "short-range tactical" missiles to Pakistan. We do not, however, have evidence that China has transferred MTCR-parameter missiles to Pakistan. We will continue to follow all PRC missile technology transfers to Islamabad to ensure that they are consistent with China's MTCR commitments and do not trigger new sanctions under U.S. law.

// The Chinese Ambassador said that the Chinese were the missiles we refer to as the M-9 missiles // We are working to clarify whether the missile China has supplied to Pakistan is one with capabilities exceeding MTCR guidelines.

In our view // the M-9 is covered by the MTCR/